

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. *(currently amended)* A method of establishing a correlation between the contents of signalling messages conforming to different protocols but relating to a common bearer data item, comprising the steps of:

monitoring messages traversing at least first and second signalling channels which conform to respective first and second signalling protocols;

selecting first messages including an identification related to an end user of said bearer data item and a first identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer data item;

selecting second messages including a second identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer data item and a call identifier;

selecting third messages including, from among the monitored messages, an identification related to an end user of said data item and a call identifier; and

using the identification related to an end user of said data item and the call identifier in said selected third messages to establish a correlation between the first and second bearer channel identifications.

2. *(currently amended)* A method of establishing a correlation between the contents of signalling messages conforming to different protocols but relating to a common bearer data item, comprising the steps of:

monitoring messages traversing at least first and second signalling channels which conform to respective first and second signalling protocols;

selecting first messages including an identification related to an end user of said bearer data item and a first identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer data item;

selecting second messages including a second identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer data item and a transaction identifier;

selecting third messages, from among the monitored messages, including an identification related to an end user of said data item and packet network address information;

selecting fourth messages including packet network address information and a transaction identifier; and

using the identification related to an end user of said data item and the call identifier said selected third and fourth messages to establish a correlation between the first and second bearer channel identifications.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the fourth messages comprise responses to said second messages.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first messages include SS7 ISUP Initial Address Messages, the end user identification comprises calling and called party addresses, and the first bearer channel identification comprises an OPC-DPC-CIC combination.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second messages include MGCP Create Connection messages and the second bearer channel identification comprises endpoint identifier parameters.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the third messages include ISUP Initial Address Messages and the end user identification comprises calling and called party addresses.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the fourth messages include MGCP Response messages, the packet network address information comprises an SDP connection descriptor parameter, and the transaction identifiers comprise transaction ID parameters.

8. (previously presented) A method of establishing a correlation between the contents of signalling messages conforming to different protocols but relating to a common bearer data item,

comprising the steps of:

monitoring messages traversing at least first and second signalling channels which conform to respective first and second signalling protocols;

selecting, from among the monitored messages, first call initiation messages including a first identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer data item;

selecting from the monitored messages second call initiation messages including a second identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer data item;

determining elapsed time between occurrence of said first and second messages; and

establishing a correlation between first and second messages for which the elapsed time is below a predetermined threshold, and thus between the first and second bearer channel identifications.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein establishment of a correlation between first and second messages is also dependent upon absence of any similar messages within a predetermined time interval.

10. (*currently amended*) The method of claim 8, wherein the first messages include SS7 ISUP Initial Address Messages, the end user identification comprises calling and called party addresses, and the first bearer channel identification comprises an OPC-DPC-CIC combination.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the second messages are MGCP Create Connection messages and the second bearer channel identification comprises endpoint identifier parameters.

12. (*currently amended*) Apparatus for establishing a correlation between the contents of signalling messages conforming to different protocols but relating to a common bearer data item, comprising:

monitoring equipment for monitoring messages traversing at least first and second signalling channels which conform to respective first and second signalling protocols;

a first selector for selecting first messages including an identification related to an end user of said bearer data item and a first identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer

data item;

a second selector for selecting second messages including a second identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer data item and a call identifier;

a third selector for selecting third messages, from among the monitored messages, including an identification related to an end user of said data item and a call identifier; and

a correlator for establishing a correlation between the first and second bearer channel identifications in accordance with the identification related to an end user of said data item and the call identifier in said selected third messages.

13. (*currently amended*) Apparatus for establishing a correlation between the contents of signalling messages conforming to different protocols but relating to a common bearer data item, comprising:

monitoring equipment for monitoring messages traversing at least first and second signalling channels which conform to respective first and second signalling protocols;

a first selector for selecting first messages including an identification related to an end user of said bearer data item and a first identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer data item;

a second selector for selecting second messages including a second identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer data item and a transaction identifier;

a third selector for selecting third messages, from among the monitored messages, including an identification related to an end user of said data item and packet network address information;

a fourth selector for selecting fourth messages including packet network address information and a transaction identifier; and

a correlator for establishing a correlation between the first and second bearer channel identifications in accordance with the identification related to an end user of said data item and the call identifier in said selected third and fourth messages.

14. (previously presented) Apparatus for establishing a correlation between the contents of signalling messages conforming to different protocols but relating to a common bearer data item, comprising:

a monitor for monitoring messages traversing at least first and second signalling channels which conform to respective first and second signalling protocols;

a first selector for selecting from the monitored messages first call initiation messages containing-including a first identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer data item;

a second selector for selecting, from the monitored messages, second call initiation messages containing-including a second identification of a bearer channel carrying said bearer data item;

a monitor for determining elapsed time between occurrence of said first and second messages; and

a correlator for establishing a correlation between first and second messages for which the elapsed time is below a predetermined threshold, and thus between the first and second bearer channel identifications.

15. (*currently amended*) The method of claim 2, wherein the first messages include SS& SS7 ISUP Initial Address Messages, the end user identification comprises calling and called party addresses, and the first bearer channel identification comprises an OPC-DOC-CIC combination.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the second messages include MGCP Create Connection Messages and the second bearer channel identification comprises endpoint identifier parameters.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the third messages include ISUP Initial Addresss Messages and the end user identification comprises calling and called party addresses.